



COMHAIRLE COIMHEARSNACHD CILL MHÁLAIDH
KILMALLIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at 19:15 on Wednesday 15th February 2012, at Kilmallie Hall
Present

- **Kilmallie Community Council**
- Christine Hutchison
- Mandy Ketchin
- Russell Leaper
- Maggie Mackenzie (Chair)
- Jan MacLugash
- Kshama Wilmington
- **Other members of public**
- John Corbett
- John Watssman
- **Highland Councillors**
- Bill Clark
- Allan Henderson
- Eddie Hunter
- **Apologies**
- Jillian Clark
- Calum Dennison
- Chris Pellow

ACTION

1. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of 18/01/2012 meeting was approved. Proposed by CH and seconded by JM.

2. Treasurers report

At 31/01/12 the bank balance was £2789.33 with committed monies to be paid out of £476.62. The bank account has been successfully transferred to the Clydesdale Bank.

3. Developments at Blar Mor

KCC welcomed Colin Graham from Miller Developments who provided an update on the supermarket development on the Blar and associated road works. Miller Developments had submitted a planning application for the road works and environmental management of the project on 31/01/2012. The discussion focussed around the likely traffic disruption. The work will start beside the existing road in March, with plans for five weeks of single flow traffic controlled by 24hr traffic lights starting in April at the Lochybridge roundabout followed by more than 6 weeks of single flow traffic controlled by 24hr lights starting late summer on the A830. Based on previous experience of restrictions of the flow along the A82, KCC members anticipated that delays of well over an hour might be expected at peak traffic flows. The following suggestions were made to try and mitigate the disruption;

- (i) Consider night time working with dual flow traffic during much of the day similar to what has become standard for publicly funded road repairs along busy routes
- (ii) Start work after 0900 when most commuters from Kilmallie area would be at work or school
- (iii) Liaise closely with BWS staff to co-ordinate canal bridge closures with road works e.g. any periods when two way traffic might need to be halted should coincide with bridge swings
- (iv) Ensure full, two way traffic over the Easter weekend which is usually particularly busy
- (v) Contact local bus companies to discuss any requirements to re-schedule timetables, particularly for school buses
- (vi) KCC to provide Colin Graham with a list of local events when substantial extra traffic might be expected e.g. six day trials, mountain bike world cup

All

Colin agreed that Miller Developments would consider these suggestions. He also offered to attend the next KCC meeting in March to provide an ongoing update. With respect to night time working this is an issue for local residents if materials are coming from Banavie Quarry. However, Colin said there were no plans for this.

There was some discussion of the other future developments on the site contained within the outline planning consent. At this stage it is uncertain what will go ahead apart from the Tesco supermarket, but the police station is likely to be next. There is also a need for a new helipad for search and rescue helicopters but the costs of clearing the peat on the Blar site are likely to make this prohibitively expensive.

4. KCC Notice boards

JM reported that there was now space on the Corpach notice board allocated for the KCC minutes and agenda. Staff at the Post Office and Tradewinds who had been managing the boards were looking for clearer guidance on what types of notices were acceptable. It was agreed to revisit this at subsequent meetings depending on the pressure on notice board space. The Banavie board has a rather temporary KCC header and logo. RL will obtain a quote from AllRound signs who erected the board for a permanent header panel.

RL

5. Newsletter

The success of the newsletter has resulted in the next edition being around 20 pages and it was still not possible to fit in all the contributions. Those residents who have signed up for an email copy need to be taken off the postal distribution list to save postage costs.

CH/MM

6. Requests for funding

KCC is restricted in the way that we can spend the Administrative Grant from Highland Council. It was therefore agreed that KCC would not fund the Kilmallie Garden's Competition. Corpach in Colour had offered to run the competition and this offer was warmly welcomed. KCC recognised the work done by Corpach in Colour and will assist wherever possible.

7. Footpath signage

The footpath sign at Moy Farm which links to the Great Glen Way is no longer present. AH offered to bring this to the attention of Alastair Stewart and the Access Forum.

AH

8. Banavie to Gairloch road

The Banavie to Gairloch road has developed numerous large potholes that raise safety concerns. Many other roads in the Kilmallie area are in a similar state and there are limited funds for temporary or more permanent repairs. Nevertheless it is useful to report serious potholes and their locations because it helps Councillors and the Road's Department prioritise repair work.

9. Japanese knotweed

Japanese knotweed is one of Scotland's most damaging and invasive weeds. It is a relatively large plant with heart shaped leaves and a lush green colour. There have been serious outbreaks around Fort William recently. It is an offence to plant or cause Japanese knotweed to grow. There are also areas affected in Kilmallie and it was agreed to post warnings of what to look for on the notice boards and web site.

MK

10. Corpach telephone box

Broken glass inside the public telephone box at Corpach presented a hazard to anyone trying to use it. Eventually the neighbouring business had cleaned up the box. KCC will find out who to contact at BT in case this happens again.

JM

11. Next meeting

The next meeting is planned for 21st March in Kilmallie Hall. It had been expected to start at 18:30 with an update from Miller Developments on the Blar, but subsequent to the meeting KCC were informed by Miller Developments that they would not participate in any further public meetings.

Distribution

By email to all KCC members, Cllr Bill Clark, Prov Allan Henderson, Cllr Eddie Hunter, Elizabeth Toal (HC), Lochaber Archive Centre, Maureen McColl (ALCC)

Paper copy to Corpach, Banavie notice boards

Chair - Margaret Mackenzie, 42 Hillview Drive, Corpach, Fort William, PH33 7LS
Secretary - Russell Leaper, Canal House, Banavie, Fort William, PH33 7LY
Treasurer - Jan MacLugash, Canal Cottage, Banavie, Fort William, PH33 7LY
www.kilmallie.org.uk